



# CROSSTALK

## News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club

Member, American Radio Relay League

DECEMBER 1985

\*\* FD'71 \*\* FD'73 \*\* FD'75 \*\* FD'76 \*\* WAS \*\* WAC \*\*

Garrett/W6TRW Repeater: 145.32/-600(2A-PL) -- UHF: 442.000in/447.000out

### CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Tuesday Dec 17, noon  
Wednesday Dec 25  
Saturday Dec 28, 8-11am

Wednesday Jan 1  
Sat, Sun Jan 11, 12  
Tuesday Jan 14, after work

Thursday Jan 25, 8-11am  
Tuesday Jan 28, noon

#### Early Club Meeting R4/1041. Vote for new Club Officers!

Christmas, May yours be a happy and joyous holiday!

Swapmeet, Don't forget the new hours for sellers! Lot opens at 7:00am - no earlier!

Northwest corner of Aviation and Compton/Marine behind the Standard station.

Happy New Year!

39th Annual ARRL VHF Sweepstakes. See details inside for this Club contest!

Executive Board Meeting. All members are welcome! At Shakey's, Manhattan Beach, 2000 N. Sepulveda Blvd., just south of Marine Ave.

Swapmeet

Club Meeting, R4/1041.

#### November Swapmeet Notes

#### Frank Cartier, W6GRAY

In spite of bad weather conditions on Friday before the November Swapmeet, we had another large turnout. The weather was perfect, cool, clear air and plenty of sunshine. By 8:30am the seller's lot was 3/4 full.

We did have a problem with the starting time however. Due to the company holiday on Thursday and Friday, the usually good coordination with Security and Maintenance for the lot entrance barricades was interrupted. As a result the barricades did not arrive until 0615 and by that time Security had let people into the seller's lot. When I arrived at 0645 the seller's lot was one quarter filled! Again I want to remind everyone that no one is allowed into the seller's lot before 0700. People who do not follow the rules will not be allowed to participate in our Swapmeet. As I requested in last month's Crosstalk article, don't arrive in the vicinity of the TRW property until just before 0700. So plan your trip accordingly. Since the December Swapmeet will again occur during a holiday period we will be taking special precautions to prevent anyone from entering the seller's lot until 0700.

Two other undesirable situations also continue to occur:

- 1) People leaving "boat anchors" behind and
- 2) Sellers not leaving the Seller's lot by 11:30

Please help us by totally cleaning your area and the area around you when you leave and let's all be out of the lot by 1130. It's usually the same people who consistently delay leaving the lot by up to one half hour!! To help with this situation we are requiring all buyers as well as sellers leave the lot by 1130 with all transactions stopping at 1130. Please help us out.

Thanks to volunteer supervisors Gary Cooper, WB6RLN, Mel Erb, K6GWC and Ron Phillips, K6MLL, for their excellent

work this past month. Without the efforts of the Club volunteers there wouldn't be a Swapmeet. Thanks again.

The volunteers for December are:

Jim Richardson, K6PDR

Mike Aust, WB6DJI

Mel Erb, K6GWC

The winner of the TRW/ARC Swapmeet raffle is ticket number 440103. If you have the winning ticket, present it to Paul Herbert, K6GCR, for your \$10.00 prize to be spent at a future Swapmeet. Any Club member wearing a TRW/ARC Club badge, hat or membership card gets up to 3 raffle tickets at each Swapmeet.

Again I ask all TRW/ARC members who attend the Swapmeet to observe that all of the rules are being followed. If you observe a situation which is in violation of the rules, contact one of the volunteer supervisors for the appropriate corrective action. We usually monitor the output of the Club repeater on 145.320 MHz.

73's and see you on December 28th at 0700!!!

#### Liability and the Engineer

The great liability of the engineer compared to men of other professions is that his works are out in the open where all can see them. His acts, step by step, are in hard substance. He cannot bury his mistakes in the grave like the doctors. He cannot argue them into thin air, or blame the judge, like the lawyer. He cannot, like the architect, cover his failures with trees and vines. He cannot, like the politicians, screen his shortcomings by blaming his opponents and hope the people will forget. The engineer simply cannot deny he did it. If his works do not work, he is damned... Herbert Hoover



## Tidbits from the Jolly Little S...!

Paul Lukas reports that Bill Rodner, K6AWS, can be heard at 1830 PST on 7.255 MHz on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Conditions have been a little spotty but are usually good and only sometimes poor.

For those of you who have not yet renewed your membership to the TRW/ARC, you have another chance this month! Again attached to the Crosstalk you will find a membership application. Bill Dews wants everyone to fill out all of the questions, especially the license expiration date. Take a moment and look it up. With 10 year license renewals becoming the way of things, it will be easier to forget when to renew. I must admit that I have been remiss in looking up this info from the roster file and warning those who are up for renewal but I will make an early New Year resolution and try to give all ample warning. Mel Erb has volunteered to do the look-ups, all I have to do is print it! Again, RENEW!, answer ALL the questions, write the check, MAIL IT!! You will also want to take your Crosstalk over to the new 1986 calendar you bought and transfer all of the dates you will find inside on the Club activities calendar to your appointment calendar so you won't miss a Club meeting or celebration. If you don't have your 1986 appointment calendar yet, keep the Crosstalk and attach it to the refrigerator with the calendar showing so you won't forget!!

With the end of the calendar year, the beginning of Advent and the approach of Christmas and the New Year, it is only natural to take a moment to reflect on the past year. The TRW/ARC has had it's ups and downs this year, it seems a few more than in previous years. We lost three very strong members in Dave Gilmore, Gary Komatsu and Fred Apper. I only hope that the membership renewal does not turn up a few more members that have slipped away without our notice. The repeater seems to be working very well with the talented Jim Cox taking over the repair and maintenance of the W6TRW and W6NWP machines. The Club station has had a few setbacks with respect to getting a new antenna in the air, but the new 40 Meter Quad has been doing a nice job of getting out to the East Coast and the new switch gear for phone/cw and east/west pattern works well. Field Day was not the same without Gary Komatsu at the helm, but Dale Jensen did a nice job of filling some really big shoes in his first year as Field Day chairman. Our ranking would have been better with a 15 Meter SSB station on the air and we would have done quite well in Class 7A! Better performance is already in planning for 1986! The Club didn't do too well in the January ARRL VHF contest even though we had the top operator in the LA area in our Club. The rules have changed for 1986 and we have a chance to redeem ourselves, and there is a new band to play with. This year's Club picnics were a big success, even if the turnout isn't that big. Jim and Luella Wike put forth a great feast for each picnic. Jim also did a fine job of organizing the St. Patrick's Day observance, which was well attended. The Club Annual Banquet was also a success, with thanks due to Chris and Kathy Wachs for the choice of restaurant and the door prizes. The ARRL Southwest Division HamCon on the Queen Mary was a complete success with the TRW/ARC taking on the responsibility of the door prizes. With seven or more door prizes given away each hour there were many satisfied hams and the HamCon made enough money to pay back each of the Clubs their seed money and donate a sizable sum to the Goldwater Scholarship. The Swapmeets have been going great guns all year even with the efforts of the Club to keep it an Amateur Radio event. We have been lucky again this year with near perfect weather for each Swapmeet, with only a few drizzles to contend with on a couple of occasions.

So what's in store for the TRW/ARC in 1986?? Packet is coming on strong in the Amateur ranks and possibly a Packet Gateway may get on the air. For certain, the new tower will be up and the KT34XA will be on top of it

## ...more Tidbits

putting the W6TRW HF station back on the air. With the bands hopefully improving, maybe a DXCC for the Club station is in order. Efforts by the members at Capistrano are beginning to bear fruit and possibly a link with our repeater is forthcoming. How about a fir place on Field Day this year?? How about a good showing in the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes?? I guess a lot of it will be up to you. If you respond in the affirmative when called upon much of the above can happen. But if there is only a few to do the work only a little will happen and maybe those who do all the work will burn out. Now is the time to stop relying upon "Someone Else" and start giving a little of yourself when called upon. I know what I am going to do and that will be to give you the best newsletter that I am capable of. If you have some ideas for improvements, please let me know, and if there is something you like, let me know that too. A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your families. May you achieve all your goals and realize all your ambitions in this coming year.

## General Meeting 26 Nov 1985

Paul Lukas, N6DMV

President Walt Pearson opened the meeting. He announced that the scheduled speaker could not be present due to travel difficulties, Chris Wachs would be speaking instead. The minutes of the last meeting could not be approved as printed in the Crosstalk as distribution of the Club newsletter had not occurred. Editor John Keller stated that the copies were delivered to the mailroom one week prior to the meeting as they normally are, but apparently the mailroom was overloaded. Two guests were welcomed to the meeting; Don Houghton, WA6VHC and Phil Bergeron, N6PB. Treasurer Paul Herbert stated that the Club was well off financially with some funds remaining to be spent before the end of the year. Paul has purchased a floppy disk with the same software as his Plus 4 computer so that the next Treasurer can use the same spread sheets that Paul has used to keep track of Club finances. A pack of 200 new QSL cards with the GRO satellite was passed around. The cards are selling for \$6.00 per 200 and there are plenty left for interested members. Bill Ivey stated that there was a tower for sale, 4 section 100 foot tower; to make an offer call (213) 641-7700. Jim Cox who was unable to attend the TRW/ARC Annual Banquet, received his Certificate of Appreciation for his work as Technical Chairman and keeping the 2 Meter repeater on the air. Walt then called for nominations for the Club offices from the floor. No nominations were received from the floor. Voting ballots will be sent out in the next month, please return them promptly as the new officers will be confirmed at the next meeting on December 17th. Chris Wachs then gave his presentation on Packet Radio. The Club has three members with Packet capability: Chris, Dale Jensen, and Paul Herbert, who had just made his first QSO the day before. Dale and Paul contributed to the presentation with their comments and experiences using Packet radio. Chris called our attention to the ARRL VHF Sweepstakes on the 2nd weekend of January (11th and 12th). This is an individual and ARRL Affiliated Club event. See details in the December '85 QST. The door prizes included a 1985 ARRL Handbook, an ARRL Antenna Book, an ARRL book on RFI and a \$25.00 gift certificate to C. & A. Roberts. 19 persons attended the meeting. The meeting was closed at 12:58 local time.

## Wanted -- For Sale -- Freebies

For Sale: Icom 2AI Handheld with Comspec PL, \$175 OR Icom 2A Handheld with Comspec PL, \$140. Both handhelds work well. I will sell only one. Bill Schrecengost, KE6LB, (213) 297-3950 weekdays. Inside TRW that's X73950.

\*\*\* W6TRM CALENDAR 1986 \*\*\*

The TRW Amateur Radio Club's Executive Board meets after work; everyone is invited to attend.  
 Club meetings are held at noon on the last Tuesday of the month except December (3rd Tuesday) in Bldg/Room R4/1041.  
 The Swapmeet is held the last Saturday of the month.  
 Club picnics are announced in Crosstalk or by a special flyer.  
 Any changes in the calendar will be announced in Crosstalk.

<p><u>JANUARY</u>          Membership Renewal Time Now!          Executive Board Meeting (EBM)          Tuesday, January 14          Swapmeet, Saturday, Jan. 25          8:00 - 11:00 am          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          January 28          New Club Officers Announced</p>	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u>          Late Membership Renewal          EBM, Tuesday, February 11          Swapmeet, Saturday, Feb. 22          8:00 - 11:00 am          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          February 25</p>	<p><u>MARCH</u>          EBM, Tuesday, March 11          St. Patrick's Day Observance          Friday After Work, March 14          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          March 25          Swapmeet, Saturday, March 29          8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p><u>APRIL</u>          EBM, Tuesday, April 8          Swapmeet, Saturday, April 26          8:00 - 11:00 am          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          April 29</p>
<p><u>MAY</u>          Club Picnic, Noon at Park,          Pre-Field Day, Tues, May 6          EBM, Tuesday, May 13          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          May 27          Swapmeet, Saturday, May 31          8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p><u>JUNE</u>          EBM, Tuesday, June 10          Club Picnic, Noon at Park,          Wednesday, June 11          Swapmeet, Sat, June 21, 8-11          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          June 24  <u>Field Day Weekend</u>, June 27-29</p>	<p><u>JULY</u>          EBM, Tuesday, July 8          Club Picnic, Noon at Park,          Monday, July 14          Swapmeet, Saturday, July 26          8:00 - 11:00 am          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          July 29</p>	<p><u>AUGUST</u>          EBM, Tuesday, August 12          Club Picnic, Noon at Park,          Friday, August 15          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          August 26          Swapmeet, Saturday,          August 30, 8:00-11:00am</p>
<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u>          EBM, Tuesday, September 9          Club Picnic, Noon at Park,          Tuesday, September 16          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          September 23          Swapmeet, Saturday, Sept. 27          8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p><u>OCTOBER</u>          EBM, Tuesday, October 14          Swapmeet, Saturday, Oct. 25          8:00 - 11:00 am          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          October 28</p>	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u>          New Officer's Nomination          EBM, Tuesday, November 11          Annual Dinner, Saturday,          November 15          Club Meeting, Tuesday, Noon,          November 25          Swapmeet, Saturday, Nov. 29          8:00 - 11:00 am</p>	<p><u>DECEMBER</u>          Vote! New Club Officers          Early EBM, Tuesday, Dec. 2          EARLY CLUB MEETING, Noon,          Tuesday, December 16          Swapmeet, Saturday, Dec. 27          8:00 - 11:00 am</p>

After President Walt Pearson called the meeting to order, John Keller handed out the new TRW/ARC 1986 calendar and voting ballots for the Club officers for 1986. Jim Cox reported that due to travel difficulties the scheduled speaker for the next meeting will not be available. The minutes of the last EBM were approved as printed in the Crosstalk. Treasurer Paul Herbert distributed the latest budget sheets. Swapmeet Manager Frank Cartier reported on the November Swapmeet. One problem is that with the last Swapmeet on a holiday weekend, facilities did not set up the barriers on the parking lot so sellers started setting up early. Frank emphasized the necessity of having a member monitor the repeater for calls from the Swapmeet for security, police or paramedic assistance so that Swapmeet supervisors do not have to leave the scene. The possibility of setting up a portable restroom for the Swapmeet was discussed; action pending. Jim Cox said that the W6NWP repeater's off frequency crystal will be replaced under warranty - no charge! Membership Chairman Bill Dews would like to distribute membership applications at the next Swapmeet. Walt reported that volunteers with HT's are needed for the Tournament of Roses Parade from 1800 Dec 31 to 1500 Jan 1. Interested parties should contact Walt. The Tournament of Roses also requested the use of the W6TRW 447.000 MHz repeater as a backup. Dale Jensen distributed copies of his upcoming presentation to our Security department concerning emergency communications. Dale is planning to better organize the Field Day activities this year including computerized dupe sheets and logging software. Walt opened discussion on priority purchases to be made before the next fiscal year. It was decided that the equipment necessary to complete the raising of the new tower be purchased, a back-up battery and cables for the repeater, and CTCSS tone encoders for the Icom HT's. Walt created an ad hoc financial committee to carry out the agreed purchases and appointed Jim Cox, Chris Wachs and Paul Herbert to that committee. The meeting was adjourned at 19:28 local time.

# Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

## 'Tis the Season to Help AMSAT

Chris Wachs, WA2KDL

Once again, with AMSAT working on two Amateur Radio satellites, they are sounding out their yearly call for a few good dollars! And now there is a very easy way for TRW employees to give to AMSAT without it being painful. AMSAT is officially recognized as a non-profit entity and you may contribute as you would to any charity through ECHO payroll deductions. By calling ECHO at extension 50945 and requesting form 915, you can get the form that will start the ball rolling. Simply fill out the form per the instructions on the back of the form and return it to ECHO and it's done!! Information that you will need for the form is below and it goes into location on the form that is marked "Designated Charity Address"

AMSAT

850 Sligo Avenue, Suite 601  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Don't feel that once you do this you will be locked in forever. Another form 915 and you can change your deductions to another charity or stop them entirely. There is no limit to the number of times you can do this in a year.



## The Digital Front

Chris Wachs, WA2KDL

If you have not heard by now, Packet is here to stay! In my past Digital Front news, I have been reporting Packet news with an L.A. emphasis. I will continue this emphasis with the following information.

You have gone and bought your own TNC and it's all hooked up to your computer and the 2 Meter rig. On what frequency do you give someone a call?? Here's the straight scoop on who operates where and what kind of data is transmitted.

On 146.745 MHz (-.600) is a Packet only repeater on Mount Bill. This repeater only works when TNC tones appear on the input. Set your transmit delay (TXD) to 9 to account for the repeater key-up delay. There is a digital net on this repeater on Monday nights. Remember to have your monitor on for the digital net.

On 145.36 MHz simplex is the LA to LA Packet frequency. This is a local area frequency with many digipeaters on the channel.

144.76 MHz and 145.03 MHz simplex are used in the local area for transfers of large files.

145.01 MHz simplex is called the West Net. This frequency should only be used as a long haul network and as a calling frequency. As a courtesy to other users, it is recommended that all local contacts (one digipeat or less) be moved off of this frequency to one of the other local Packet channels after initial contact is made.

145.05 MHz simplex is a second long haul network channel and should be used in the same manner as 145.01 MHz.

441.500 MHz simplex is the local area Packet channel on the 420 MHz band.

14.1035 MHz and 10.1471 MHz are the HF Packet frequencies using the Bell 103 tones.

If you are new to Packet and want more information connect to WB6YMH-2 on 145.36 MHz simplex and request a print of the file "Newuser.inf." If you intend to print out the file make sure you have plenty of paper!!